XXVI.

Extract of a Letter from Portſmouth; *communicated by* Daniel Wray *Eſq*; *F. R. S. concerning the ſame.*

March 19, 1749.

Read March 22. 1749. YESTERDAY, about a Quarter before Six in the Evening, a ſlight Shock of an Earthquake was felt here. I don't find it was general, as many People felt nothing of it. It was felt ſenſibly at Mr. *Carter*'s and Mr. *Taylor*'s; ſo that it is ſomething more than Fancy.

P. S. Since writing the above, I am told the Shock was very violently felt in the *Iſle of Wight* Yeſterday.

XXVII.

The Rev. Wm. Cooper *D. D. Dean of* Durham, *to the* Preſident, *of the* Earthquake *on* March 8. *and of the* luminous Arch, February 16. 1749.

S I R, *Groſvenor's-Street, March* 22, 1749.

Read March 29. 1749. WHILST I was in the Country, I made as much Inquiry into the Progreſs and Extent of the Earthquake Northward as I was able; but could collect very little worth your Notice.

It was felt very ſenſibly at *Northaw*, and at *Gubbins*, the Seat of Sir *Jeremy Sambrooke* in that Neighbourhood, whoſe Houſe was ſhaken very much.

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much. At a Farm, three Quarters of a Mile NE of *Hatfield*, it was felt by the Farmer and his Family, but not perceived by the Inhabitants of *Hatfield* itſelf.

In like manner at *Hertingfordbury*, a Village a ſmall Mile Weſt of *Hertford*, the Shock was felt diſtinctly; but not obſerved by any of the Inhabitants of *Hertford*.

At my own Houſe at *Panſhanger*, two Miles Weſt of the above-mention'd Town, the Noiſe was heard twice, at the Interval of about half a Minute, reſembling the Rumbling of a Cart thro' the Streets; but no Shock felt either within or without-doors.

This Circumſtance of the Noiſe being heard without any ſenſible Tremor or Heavings of the Earth, makes me imagine, that the Force of the Vapour was ſpent before it reached that Place; and thereabouts may be reckon'd the Northern Limit of the Earthquake; at leaſt, I have not heard of any Places more to the North that were affected by it. It is no wonder, in a Shock ſo ſudden and alarming, that very few ſatisfactory Obſervations are made, either as to the Nature of the Shock, the Direction of the Tremor, the Time it was felt, or its Duration; of none of which can I give you any Particulars. I ſhould not have troubled you with theſe I have collected, but for my Promiſe; and that I thought that one Obſervation, made at my Houſe, in ſome degree fixed the Extent of the Shock to be limited thereabouts; and might not therefore prove quite an immaterial one.

I cannot help mentioning a luminous Arch, which appear'd *Feb.* 16. about 9 at Night. It had *Arcturus* in

in its Eaſtern Limit, which was then low in the Horizon, and extended to the bright Star in the right Shoulder of *Orion*, then bearing S W. It was exceedingly bright, regular, and well-defin'd, and about the Breadth of the Rainbow; which it reſembled in every thing, but its Variety of Colours. It continued thus for almoſt 20′ Minutes, declining gently Southward, and then gradually ſeparated and diſappear'd. I am,

S I R,

Your very affectionate Friend and Servant,

W. Cowper.

XXVIII.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Mr. Taylor, *Vicar of* Portſmouth, *to Mr.* Roderick, *concerning an* Earthquake *felt there*, March 18. 1749-50.

Portſmouth, March 25. 1750.

Read March 29. 1750. I SHALL give you ſome Particulars with regard to the Earthquake, which was felt here on *Sunday* the 18th inſtant.

The firſt Part of the preceding Week was fine Weather. *Wedneſday* Night it became damp and cold, and continued ſo all *Thurſday*, with Miſts. *Friday* was a fine Day; *Saturday* damp and cloudy; *Sunday* Morning fine. Juſt before 6 in the Evening we had ſome large Drops of Rain, and a Thunder-